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TELEGRAPH,

AND TEXAS REGISTER.

VOL. I. San Felipe de Austin, Saturday, March 5, 1836. NO. 18.

POETRY.

From the New York Spectator of the 7th ult.

TEXAS.

Hark! from the land where dwells the free,
Borne on the breeze a cry of hate and terror,
The nation's call for Liberty's decree
Would dare invade her sacred border.

Where lies the soldier's sacred bed to me
Be hunted and hold a captive,
Not even Heaven's perpetual dew
Its gentle tribute to Heaven can give.

The children round the [illegible]
[illegible]
Where, at the hour [illegible]
Which [illegible]

And now the [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

Hark! from the land where [illegible]
[illegible]
Shall be [illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

Narrative of a Visit from Genl. Cos to Gen. S. F. Austin's camp & Detention of Texas as a Prisoner.

To S. F. Austin, Esq.

SIR,—When I wrote to you from Goliad, on the 5th instant, it was in compliance with the recommendations made to me in your favor by very respectable persons; and, because I had not the slightest suspicion, that you could be the chief leader of the revolution. I am now surprised on being undeceived, inasmuch as your communication of yesterday leaves no longer a doubt that you are at the head of the rebels; and as I am not competently authorized to negociate with the factious, for me to treat with them, it is indispensable that you lay aside your hostile attitude, withdraw the people who accompany you, deliver up the Mexican soldiers that you have made prisoners, and place every thing on the solo footing of petitions, and by no means resort to acts. In the mean while, let my former invitation be considered null; for it would be extremely ridiculous in me to treat with you now after the affair of Labahia, &c.

I entertain the best disposition for arranging matters in such a way that the colonists might not feel the effects of a disastrous war; but it is not my fault that they have presumptions, and are on the point of contending with the whole nation, whose pride is so great that she can never yield to the dictation of strangers, and will finally chastise the guilty. It is perhaps certain, that some Mexicans, whether from private resentment, or private interest, or because no rule is without exception, will co-operate in the revolt of the colonists; but the nation in general will oppose it with all her forces; and that man must be indeed degraded who would not prefer death to a base compromise.

I have not yet given the slightest cause to you, or any one else, to attribute to me [illegible] noble intentions; on the contrary, I might be accused of weakness, for having taken too much into consideration the local interests of those new settlers, who wish to prosper by going beyond the bounds set by nature herself; for, in human affairs to proceed to extremities, is to commit excesses which hasten the termination of their existence. The term made use of by your official communication (to which I do not reply) of the "Federal army of Texas" is quite unknown. Consider, that in this nation there is no other army than the one to which I belong; that neither has it attacked the form of government previously mentioned, nor has it interfered with the political ways of this republic. That it is desirous of peace, that army has sufficiently shown; but it does not decline to enter into war, inasmuch as that is its profession; and the individuals who compose it have manifested from the time of our happy emancipation, their contempt of dangers, their resignation and enthusiasm in the best of battle itself. You may infer from this, that I will not receive a *white flag*; because that would be to acknowledge, in a certain manner, the existence of your revolted forces; therefore, if the reflections which the perusal of the communication ought to produce, should not make a sufficient impression on your mind, you can from this moment, continue to carry on, as before, your operations. This shall be the last communication, unless you should subsequently consent to my request, of appearing in the character of a peaceable citizen, who ought certainly to be interested in preventing the Mexicans from making of the colonies a signal example.

See what I can personally be of service to you, as I remain your attentive servant, who kisses your hands.

MARTIN PERFECTO DE COS.

If God, &c. would [illegible] the meaning, but grace which we discover to be contemptuous to [illegible] Now, what may we not expect from his master, Santa Ana, for those we were [illegible] the principles of the co [illegible] now the contempt to [illegible] exists. If Santa Ana would seek Zacatecas and plunder Monterey, what will he not do to us.

ADDRES TO THE PEOPLE.

FELLOW FREEMEN!

The despot dictator, and his vassal myrmidons, are fast displaying their hostile columns on the frontiers of our heretofore happy and blessed Texas. Their war cry is, "death and destruction to every Anglo American, west of the Sabine;" their watch word, actually, "beauty and booty." Many of you met the veteran soldiers of Europe, when they dared to invade the land of our fathers, under the same sacrilegious watch word—you chastised, and gloriously drove them back to the ocean; you made tyrants tremble at the name of American freemen, and taught them that the soil of an independent people, is not to be polluted by the foot-steps of a mercenary soldiery! And will you *now*, as Texian freemen, as fathers, as husbands, as sons, and as brothers, suffer the *infant* lineings of a cruel and faithless despot, to blast and revel, in your dearly purchased and cherished homes? Figure to yourselves, my countrymen, the horrors and misery that will be entailed on you, should the Indians once obtain foothold on our soil! Your beloved wives, your mothers, your daughters, sisters, and helpless innocent children, given up to the direpollution, and massacre of a herd of barbarians!! Your farms, reclaimed by you from the wilderness, with so much pain and labor, laid waste, and where now flourish the rich products of the husbandman, will be seen the brier and bramble, and our *once Texas* again become a dreary wild, occupied only by the savage of the desert, and the cruel animals of the forest; and the *name of Texas* will only be remembered by its fearful sufferings, and as having been once inhabited by a civilized, but unfortunate people.

As a fellow freeman, I earnestly entreat you, at once to prepare for the field, "and "let us on" to the scene of action. "There is not a moment to lose; I shall be ready to take my place in the ranks of the defenders of "home and firesides" on the 10th of next month, and anxiously invite all who possibly can, to meet me in the town of Washington on that day prepared for a decisive and glorious campaign. *United*, Texas has nothing to fear, and every thing to hope. Let our motto be "Victory and Independence, or an honorable grave," and our watch word, "the tyrant dead or alive, or a visit to his palace."

JOHN W. HALL.

The following important information and advice from the standing committee shows the necessity of acting immediately.

FRIENDS AND CITIZENS OF TEXAS,—Information, of a character not to be questioned, has just been received from Col. Fannin, which states that Santa Anna, at the head of four thousand men, has crossed the San Antonio river, leaving Goliad in his rear, and is moving upon our public stores, and thence to Gonzales. This force is independent of the army under Siezma, before Bejar. A general turn out has commenced and is going on here and westward, and as far as known. Citizens in every part of the country, it is hoped, will be no less ready to defend their homes, their wives, and children.

We advise that every armed vessel which can be had should be despatched at once, to scour the Gulf, and all points where most likely to intercept the stores and supplies of the enemy, and every precaution adopted for protecting our own stores.

JOHN R. JONES, } *Standing*
THOMAS GAY, } *Committee.*

San Felipe, March 2, 1836.

TELEGRAPH.

SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 1836.

We would respectfully notify the present convention, that having procured a sufficiency of hands, we are prepared to execute any order, either at night or day.

The jurisdiction of Mina, first at her post during last year, against the encroachments either of Indians or Mexicans, several days since despatched a company of men to the relief of our friends in Bejar. May others, less exposed than Mina, follow this generous example.

We are happy to hear of the promptness of the jurisdiction of Colorado, in organizing its militia, under the orders of the provisional government. It appears the people are determined to *do their* duty, even under a government not quite as stable as the one under which they have formerly lived. They were, by this compliance of duty, ready on Wednesday last to march into the field with a company of seventy-five or eighty men, under the command of Capt. Thomas Rabb: we know him, and if half his men are as well acquainted with the use of the rifle as himself, his company need not fear four times its number.

On Saturday last, the militia of this place held an election for officers. Moseley Baker, Esq. was elected captain, John P. Borden first lieutenant, and E. B. Wood second lieutenant. Captain Baker proceeded forthwith to organize the company, many of whom turned out as volunteers, who, with several gentlemen from the United States, constituted a company of thirty men. On Monday, being mustered, and ready to march, Gail Borden, Jr., in the name of two ladies of this jurisdiction, presented captain Baker and his company with a stand of colors, accompanied with their earnest prayer, that, under it, they and their children might be protected from the merciless invader of their homes.

To which captain Baker returned the following answer:—

MR. BORDEN,—In behalf of the San Felipe company and for myself, I return you, and through you to the ladies, our heartfelt thanks for the colors so unexpectedly presented. This banner of independence, the work and the gift of worth and of beauty, is the most valuable gift, saving the independence of Texas, that could have been bestowed upon this company; and these citizen-soldiers and myself will never cease to recollect the now endeared names of the fair donators, or cease to cherish the pleasing and heart-gratifying emotions produced by the recollections of this day. Give, sir, to the ladies our solemn declaration, that this Texas banner, presenting the cross, the stripes, and the star, shall wave triumphant from our ranks, so long as an arm can be raised to uphold it. Tell them that dishonored it never shall be, so long as an individual of the San Felipe Company is left to behold it. For myself, it shall never fall or retreat, until my heart ceases to beat.

Fellow-citizens, and citizen soldiers, behold the banner of your country. Before you waves the gift of two fair daughters of Texas. Your lot is fortunate and your distinction proud. First in your hands is placed the Texas flag: let you be the last to see it bribe to the invading foe: let no other feeling ever glow in your bosoms than that expressed in the motto on your banner, "our country's rights or death." He who refuses to surrender, if necessary, his life for its protection, let him be a dastard and a traitor for life, and let him have no habitation among the free. Let us all, with one accord, raise our hands to heaven and swear, "The Texas flag shall wave triumphant, or we will sleep in death."

The flag presented to the San Felipe company, was made according to the pattern proposed for the flag of Texas and of independance. The following is the device: The English jack showing the origin of the Anglo-Americans; thirteen stripes, representing that most of the colonists in Texas are from the United States; the star is Texas, the only state in Mexico retaining the least spark of the light of liberty; tri-colored, is Mexican, showing that we once belonged to that confederacy; the whole flag historic.

The standing committee, appointed by the citizens of this place, in the absence of any authority to act in the pressing emergency, are deserving the highest commendations for their industry and promptness in procuring arms, ammunition, and provisions for the troops raising in this part of the country. On Sunday the committee was appointed; on Tuesday a wagon, loaded with every thing necessary, was despatched westward. Another wagon is now fitting out, and will start in a few days with provisions and arms. "Go ye, (every town in Texas,) and do likewise." Wait not for the more tardy commands of legislative bodies. Nothing which the committee have is withheld. Nothing but promptness and the greatest energy will now save Texas. A great proportion of the San Felipe company volunteered, and have marched. Maj. A. Somerville remained behind to superintend a draft of two thirds of all who did not volunteer. Three of our printers were drafted; but the committee, deeming it all important that the press should keep in operation, recommended Maj. Somerville not to call upon the printers, but to return them, subject to the payment of such sum as the authorities shall hereafter designate.

Many persons complain that they do not receive our paper regularly, and we have reason to believe their complaints are not unfounded; though we can assure our subscribers that all diligence and care are used in forwarding the papers.

In journeying through the country, we have seen papers, belonging to persons who had not received them, mislaid and far out of the way. We had hoped, that at places where the mail regularly arrives, subscribers would receive their papers; but we learn that omissions are not unfrequent.

We have just received a letter from a friend in New-Orleans, stating he had received but one paper. Our papers are regularly sent to that city for the Bee, Bulletin, and Advertiser, and several to our agent, Mr. Bryan. We seldom receive exchange papers, though we are assured that they are sent. Post masters, and masters of vessels, would confer no less a favor on the citizens of Texas than on ourselves, by delivering, without delay, such papers as may be put in their charge. It is a time when delay of intelligence might prove ruinous. As there are many places where mails are not yet established, we hope that every person will, on roads leading to such places, take an interest in forwarding not only the Telegraph, but every other public paper; for, without information, the people move with little concert of action.

We regret to hear of the backwardness of some of our fellow citizens, in turning out in defence of their wives and children. It is with pleasure and satisfaction, that not only the men, but even the women are nobly contributing all the service in their power in defence of our country. A few days since, when despatches were to be sent to every part of the country, an elderly lady, well known to many in this colony, on hearing of the present alarming invasion, carried, with the least possible delay, the intelligence into a settlement on the Brazos below. Many other ladies are doing every thing in their power in providing clothing, and other articles of equipment for those going to the field.

We hear some complain, saying, they have already served longer, or contributed more, than some of their richer neighbors: others, that they have got no credit for what they have already done; and not unfrequently do we hear men say, they are ready to fight, but are not willing to turn out, while men possessed of lands and other property are staying at home to take care of their substance, the former not having a foot of land, or little else to fight for. We acknowledge that the burthen of the present war has, thus far, fallen very unequally upon our citizens. We know men, whose names are not yet mentioned, who have generously devoted *all* their time, and much of their substance, in defence of our country, while others have done but little. But it is hoped that none at the present time, when Texas is threatened to be thrown back again into a wilderness state, will count on the profit of former occupations, or will consider the cost of a few months service, when expulsion or death is at hand!

Among the many who have contributed their services in once vanquishing our enemies, a valuable servant, (Peter,) who hires his own time, was pressed into the service, with his wagon and team, to carry provisions to the army last fall: he has as yet received no compensation. Thus we see the operations of the war carried on no less by the weak than the strong. And we exhort every one not to shrink from duty, because he may not at present be either rewarded or remembered; for we trust the time *will* come, when services will be acknowledged, and merit duly appreciated. So far as is in our power, generous and timely services shall be recorded, without respect to names or rank.

We have just learned that a treaty has been effected with the north eastern Indians; favorable, we trust to them, and beneficial to all parties. We hope next week, to be able to give particulars.

The committee of San Felipe would suggest to commandants of companies fitting out, the great utility of taking with them a quantity of bags; say two for each man. In case of an attack each man could fill his bags with sand or dirt, and in less than twenty minutes a sufficient breast work could be raised to serve for their greater security; and in a prairie country, this method of fortifying appears to the committee a good one. Common domestic for the bags would be all sufficient, and than twelve hours the ladies of borhood could supply all the might turn out. nish the San quota of bags

[redacted]

...E IN TEXAS, AND ALL AMERICANS IN THE WORLD.

{ Commandancy of the Alamo, Bejar, Feb. 24, 1836.

Fellow-citizens and compatriots,

I am besieged by a thousand or more of the Mexicans, under Santa Anna. I have sustained a continual bombardment and cannonade, for twenty-four hours, and have not lost a man. The enemy have demanded a surrender at discretion, otherwise the garrison is to be put to the sword, if the fort is taken. I have answered the summon with a cannon shot, and our flag still waves proudly from the walls. *I shall never surrender or retreat:* then I call on you, in the name of liberty, of patriotism, and of every thing dear to the American character, to come to our aid, with all despatch. The enemy are receiving reinforcements daily, and will no doubt increase to three or four thousand, in four or five days. Though this call may be neglected, I am determined to sustain myself as long as possible, and die like a soldier, who never forgets what is due to his own honor and that of his country.

VICTORY OR DEATH.

W. Barret Travis,
Lieut.-Col. Command.

P. S. The Lord is on our side. When the enemy appeared in sight, we had not three bushels of corn. We have since found, in deserted houses, eighty or ninety bushels, and got into the walls twenty or thirty head of beeves. T.

When the above letter had been received in San Felipe the citzens met, on the 27 of February, to deliberate on this communication. Joseph Baker was unanimously called to the chair, and B. F. Cage appointed secretary. The letter from Wm. B. Travis having been read, and the objects of the meeting explained, on motion of Mosely Baker Esq.,

Resolved, That the chairman appoint a committee of twelve to prepare an address and draft resolutions for the adoption of this meeting;

Whereupon, The chairman appointed Mosely Baker, J. A. Wharton, F. J. Starr, J. R. Jones, W. R. Hensley, A. Ewing, P. B. Dexter, A. Somerville, J. Fletcher, J. H Money, James Cochrane and Thos. Gay, then on motion, the meeting adjourned until 11 o'clock,

The meeting, accordingly, reconvened at 11 o'clock, when the following address and resolutions were reported, and unanimously adopted.

To our Fellow-citizens.

The undersigned a committee appointed by a meeting held in the town of San Felipe, on this day, present you with the accompanying letter from the commandant of Bejar. You must read and act in the same moment, or Texas is lost. You must rise from your lethargy, and march without a moment's delay to the field of war, on the next western breeze that sweeps over your habitations, will bring with it the shrieks and wailings of the women and children of Guadaloupe and Colorado; and the last agonized shriek of liberty will follow. Citizens of the Colorado and Brazos, your country is invaded—your homes are [illegible], your families destroyed, yourselves to be enslaved; and you must, one and all, repair to the field of war, or prepare to abandon your country. Ere this information shall be generally circulated, the blood of many of our citizens will have crimsoned the soil; and the soul of many a devoted patriot flown to Heaven.

Inhabitants of the east, your fellow citizens of the west are in danger. Of themselves, they cannot resist the foe; we appeal to your magnanimity; we implore you for succor; and we earnestly entreat that your succor might be speedy. Unless it is, Texas, and her citizens, and her liberties, and her hopes, are forever gone.

For ourselves, we will abandon the contest only with our lives, and then earnestly appeal to all, every one to do his duty to his country, and leave the consequences to God.

Mosely Baker,	F. J. Starr,
J. A. Wharton,	J. R. Jones,
W. R. Hensley,	Alex. Ewing,
P. B. Dexter,	A. Somerville,
J. Fletcher,	J. H. Money,
J. Cochrane,	Thos. Gay:

The committee also reports the following resolutions:

Resolved, That a committee of three persons be appointed a standing committee, whose duty it shall be to solicit individual subscriptions, for the purpose of procuring provisions, ammunitions, &c., for the use of the country.

Resolved, That said committee forward as soon as possible, provisions of every kind, to Gonzales; also ammunitions, arms, &c.

Resolved, That they procure boats of all kinds, on the Brazos river, for the purpose of crossing as expeditively as possible.

Resolved, That said committee be appointed the general guardians of our interests at home; and that they be intreated to spare no pains in raising the means for our subsistance, and that they forward on men, as fast as possible.

Resolved, That they provide expresses, to communicate with the country, so far as practicable.

Resolved, That they do all and every thing necessary for the public good; and their receipts shall be sufficient vouchers to the persons from whom they may receive.

Resolved, That we recommend the establishment of depots, on the road to Gonzales, for provisions, arms, &c.; and that the committee call on the citizens generally for supplies.

Resolved, That two hundred copies of the proceedings of this meeting, together with colonel Travis's letter, be published as soon as possible.

In accordance with the first resolution, Wm. Pettus Jr., John R. Jones, and Thos. Gay, were appointed the committee.

On motion, the meeting adjourned *sine die*.

{ Head Quarters, Army of Texas. Fort Goliad, Feb. 16, 1836.

To his Excellency, J. W. Robinson, and General Council.

Since my communication of the 14 inst., enclosing several documents received from Paintain, arrived here only. Both of these gentlemen, and likewise to most of the people Texas, and their statements confirm in the smallest particular, my former intelligence, may be confidently relied on.

As these gentlemen will visit San Felipe, and can communicate fully with you, I will not go into a detailed account of the facts, &c, collected from them, but only draw your attention to the *plan* of the intended campaign against Texas.

It is designed to enter our country in three divisions—one to take Bejar, commanded by Generals Seizma, Felisola, and Cos—one against Goliad, under Ureal, (recently governor of Durango) and Colonel Garay—the third under Santa Ana himself, to pass either above Bejar, or between that post and Goliad, and proceed directly into the heart of the colony, and there to fortify.

I understand the general says, he will not go into the woods and swamps to find us, and fight us, but proceed through open prairies to the centre of Texas, and immediately fortify, and let us come to him, and make the best fight we can, or that he will allow us. I only say to this, amen—*so might it be.* Send from twelve to fifteen hundred men to Bejar immediately, and provisions plenty, and any where from five to eight hundred here, with like stores; and then a *reserve* army on the Colorado. to salute the general with a *feu de joie*, and then all will be well.

I tell you, and must urge it upon you for the safety and protection of the families of the colonists, to go about getting this reserve organized. Guard well Bastrop, Gonzales, and some lower point on the Colorado, and have it so arranged that all the forces may be concentrated in two days, to defend the point selected to pass. Get your artillery ready, and have good teams, and high up the country, some heavy pieces in your train. He expects to cover his troops with his artillery, and has a large train. The militia from the east can form the corps of reserve, while those nearer here can be pushed on forthwith to Bejar and this place.

Stir up the people, but do not allow them to come into camp unless *organized*. I never wish to see an election in a camp where I am responsible in any manner. I have taken measures to forward provisions to Bejar, and forwarded orders there to-day to place that post in a state of defence, which if attended to will make it safe.

If General Houston does not return to duty, on the expiration of his furlough, and it meets your approbation, I shall make head quarters at Bejar, and take with me such of the force as can be spared.

I hope to have this place well secured by the time I can hear from you. If I do not go to Bejar, I would prefer the reserve army, and think I could do some service. In this, however, do with me, while a public servant, as you deem best. Bejar and Guadaloupe, and Colorado, I think will be the posts of danger and honor.

A *cross of honor* and pension of *four dollars* a month has been awarded to the hero and his men who defended Tampico, agree-

nbly to rank: and the same pension to all who aid in expelling us from Texas. Provisions are very scarce in Matamoros and the adjoining country, and they must depend upon New-Orleans. Where is your *navy?* Stop those ports, and they are ruined.

Go ahead—rely on yourselves, and the arms of your own. No aid need be expected from Mexicans. I will make a full and complete return of all matters between this and the 22d, and hope something good. Nothing certain from Johnson & co. The artillery is on the way up here. Nothing from Col. Wharton & co.

I am your obedient servant,

J. W. FANNIN, Jr., *Col.*

TO AN IMPARTIAL WORLD.

NUMBER 2.

Analysis of the Mexican Federal Constitution of 1824.

It has been wisely remarked by that great illustrator of the machinery of governments, (Montesquieu) that there can be no liberty where the legislative, executive, and judicial powers, or any two of them, are united in the same person or body of persons. (See Spirit of Laws, in reference to the English constitution.) If any corroboration of this high authority is needed, I will refer to Mr. Jefferson, and the writers of that invaluable political text book, the Federalist. Mr. Jefferson, in his Notes on Virginia, page 195, says the concentration of legislative, executive and judicial powers in the same hands, is precisely the definition of despotism. And in the Federalist, page 261, it is said, "the accumulation of these powers in the same hands, whether of one, a few, or many, and whether hereditary, self-appointed, or elective, is the very definition of tyranny." In the same great work, it is clearly demonstrated, that if each department is not so fortified in its powers as to prevent infringement by the others, the constitution which creates them all will be worth no more than the parchment upon which it is written. So important was it deemed by all the states of this Union, to keep these departments distinct, and in different hands, that it has been specially provided for in all their constitutions. (See the constitutions of the different States.) And yet in the face of all this wisdom and experience, and contrary to every thing that is republican in its nature, the framers of the Mexican constitution have reserved to congress the sole power of construing the constitutionality of its own acts. This it will be readily seen is an entire nullification of the judiciary in all constitutional matters, and leaves the rights of the people and the constitution itself without any other security than what is to be found in the virtue, patriotism and intelligence of congress. What slender reliances, where the liberties and happiness of a nation are concerned! If in the United States congress should transcend its powers in the passage of a law, the courts would declare it null and void; and bring back congress to a constitutional discharge of its duties. But if the same thing were attemped in Mexico, congress would re-enact the law, declare it constitutional, and imprison the jude for his presumption. It appears then that the Mexican constitution of 1824 contains within itself the seeds of its own destruction. For the accumulation of legislative and judicial powers in congress, and the enabling of that body to violate the constitution at will, renders it of no more avail than "sounding brass or tinkling cymbal." It will be no alleviation, says Mr. Jefferson, in his work above quoted, page 195, that in the case of congress unlimited powers are vested in a plurality of hands. One hundred or two hundred despots are surely as oppressive as one. Let those who doubt it, turn their eyes on the republic of Venice. In the next place I will show, that independent of this objection, the Mexican constitution contains principles and provisions five hundred years behind the liberalized views of the present age, and at war with every thing that is akin to civil or religious liberty. In that instrument, the power of government, instead of being divided as they are in the United States, and other civilized countries, into legislative, executive and judicial, are divided into military, ecclesastical and civil, and these two first are fortified with exclusive privileges, and made predominant. It is specially declared that the Roman catholic religion is, and forever shall be, the established religion of the land. No other is tolerated, and no one can be a citizen without professing it. Can any people be capable of self-government—can they know any thing about republicanism, who will in this enlightened age endeavor to erect the military over the civil—to bind the conscience in chains, and to enforce an absolute subscription to the dogmas of any religious sect—but more especially of that sect, which has waged an unceasing warfare against liberty, whenever the ignorant and superstitions of mankind have given it a foothold?

Can republicans live under a constitution containing such unhallowed principles? All will say they cannot. And if the Texian colonists are willing to do so a moment longer than they are able to shake off the yoke, they are unworthy the sympathies or assistance of any free people—they are unworthy descendants of those valorized heroes of the American revolution, who fought and bled, and conquered for religious as well as civil liberty, and who established the sacred principle that "all men have a right to worship Almighty God according to the dictates of their consciences." Yet bad as this constitution is, it has been swept away by, if possible, a worse form of government, the central. This system, now attempted to be rivetted upon the people of Texas, has preserved most of the bad features of the old constitution, viz: the preponderance of the military and clergy, and has destroyed all of the good features, to wit: the representation of the people through the medium of congress, and the division of the republic into states. The whole of the states are now consolidated into one, and governed by a dictator and council of about a dozen, who are the creatures of his will and the flatterers of his lawless despotism. All of Mexico, but Texas, has submitted to this, and she is waging war against it with all the energies of an infant and much oppressed people. If it be asked, why have the people of Texas submitted so long to such a constitution. I answer, that for the first few years their number or wealth did not attract the notice or cupidity of government. 2dly, the incessant revolutions of Mexico kept their attention from Texas for many years more. 3dly, they submitted from a physical inability to resist. And 4thly, they were determined to prove themselves a law and oath abiding people, and in case of rupture with Mexico; to show to the world that *they* were not the aggressors. This rupture has been brought about, and it is folly to think of ever healing the breach. The constitution has been destroyed, and it is idle to think of restoring it. If restored, I have shown that no republican can live under it. We have no right to conclude that if re-established, it will be amended so as to be made more republican and more congenial with our wishes—for in all their changes and commotions, each party contends for the established religion—it is the last thing they will part with—believing it to be the anchor of their hope and salvation here and hereafter. But granting that the federal party should triumph, that the monster centralism should be crushed; and that the constitution should be amended so as to make it appear, on parchment, the most unexceptionable charter of human rights known to the republican world, have we any reason to believe or to hope, from their demonstrated incapacity of self government, and from their incessant past revolutions, that it will be or can be administered for a day? But, as I before said, it is idle to talk of the constitution now. *Texas must be independent.* The tie between her and Mexico is severed, and that by the injustice and violence of Mexico. It can never be re-united—for between the colonists and Mexicans there is an almost total dissimilarity of soil, climate, productions, pursuits, habits, interest, manners, education, language and religion. CURTIUS.

THE LATEST NEWS.

Citizens of Texas, one and all, arouse. Mr. Powers, Mr. Lamar, and other gentlemen from the Nueces, have just brought intelligence that the whole Mexican army, amounting to not less than eight thousand men, are on our frontier. The inhabitants of Power's and McMullin's colonies have abandoned their homes, and are flocking into the colonies, giving up their stocks of all sorts. In ten days, the people of the Colorado and Brazos will share the same fate, unless all turn out, to conquer or to die. Signed, *San Felipe Commit.*

TEXAS HAS DECLARED HER INDEPENDENCE.

. . . . *We therefore, the delegates, with plenary powers, of the people of Texas, in solemn convention assembled, appealing to a candid world for the necessities of our condition, do hereby resolve and declare, that our political connexion with the Mexican nation has forever ended, and that the people of Texas, do now constitute a* FREE SOVREIGN, *and Independent Republic, and are fully invested with all the rights and attributes which properly belong to independent nations; and conscious of the rectitude of our intentions, we fearlessly and confidently commit the issue to the decision of the Supreme arbitor of the destinies of nations.*

TELEGRAPH,
AND TEXAS REGISTER.

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THE DECLARATION

OF INDEPENDENCE

Made by the Delegates of the People of Texas, in General Convention, at Washington, on March 2, 1836.

When a government has ceased to protect the lives, liberty, and property of the people, from whom its legitimate powers are derived, and for the advancement of whose happiness it was instituted; and so far from being a guarantee for their inestimable and inalienable rights, becomes an instrument in the hands of evil rulers for their oppression. When the Federal Republican Constitution of their country, which they have sworn to support, no longer has a substantial existence, and the whole nature of their government has been forcibly changed, without their consent, from a restricted Federative Republic, composed of Sovereign States, to a consolidated Central Military despotism, in which every interest is disregarded but that of the army and the priesthood, both the eternal enemies of civil liberty, the ever ready minions of power, and the usual instruments of tyrants. When, long after the spirit of the constitution has departed, moderation is at length so far lost by those in power, that even the semblance of freedom is removed, and the forms themselves of the constitution discontinued, and so far from their petitions and remonstrances being regarded, the agents who bear them are thrown into dungeons, and mercenary armies sent forth to force a new government upon them at the point of the bayonet.

When, in consequence of such acts of malfeasance and abduction on the part of the government, anarchy prevails and civil society is dissolved into its original elements, in such a crisis, the first law of nature, the right of self preservation, the inherent and inalienable right of the people to appeal to first principles, and take their political affairs into their own hands in extreme cases, enjoins it as a right towards themselves and a sacred obligation to their posterity to abolish such government, and create another in its stead, calculated to rescue them from impending dangers, and to secure their welfare and happiness.

Nations, as well as individuals, are amenable for their acts to the public opinion of mankind. A statement of a part of our grievances is therefore submitted to an impartial world, in justification of the hazardous but unavoidable step now taken, of severing our political connection with the Mexican people, and assuming an independent attitude among the nations of the earth.

The Mexican Government, by its colonization laws, invited and induced the Anglo American population of Texas to colonize its wilderness under the pledged faith of a written constitution, that they should continue to enjoy that constitutional liberty and republican government to which they had been habituated in the land of their birth, the United States of America.

In this expectation they have been cruelly disappointed, inasmuch as the Mexican nation has acquiesced in the late changes made in the government by General Antonio Lopez Santa Ana, who having overturned the constitution of his country, now offers, as the cruel alternative, either to abandon our homes acquired by so many privations, or submit to the most intolerable of all tyranny, the combined despotism of the sword and the priesthood.

It hath sacrificed our welfare to the state of Coahuila, by which our interests have been continually depressed through a jealous and partial course of legislation, carried on at a far distant seat of government, by a hostile majority in an unknown tongue, and this too, notwithstanding we have petitioned in the humblest terms for the establishment of a separate state government, and have, in accordance with the provisions of the national constitution, presented to the general congress a republican constitution, which was, without a just cause, contemptuously rejected.

It incarcerated in a dungeon, for a long time, one of our citizens, for no other cause but a zealous endeavour to procure the acceptance of our constitution and the establishment of a state government.

It has failed and refused to secure, on a firm basis, the right of trial by jury, that palladium of civil liberty and only safe guarantee for the life, liberty, and property of the citizen.

It has failed to establish any public system of education, although possessed of almost boundless resources, (the public domain;) and although it is an axiom in political science, that unless a people are educated and enlightened, it is idle to expect the continuance of civil liberty, or the capacity for self government.

It has suffered the military commandants, stationed among us, to exercise arbitrary acts of oppression and tyranny, thus trampling upon the most sacred rights of the citizen, and rendering the military superior to the civil power.

It has dissolved, by force of arms, the state congress of Coahuila and Texas, and obliged our representatives to fly for their lives from the seat of government, thus depriving us of the fundamental political right of representation.

It has demanded the surrender of a number of our citizens, and ordered military detachments to seize and carry them into the interior for trial, in contempt of the civil authorities, and in defiance of the laws and the constitution.

It has made piratical attacks upon our commerce by commissioning foreign desperadoes, and authorizing them to seize our vessels and convey the property of our citizens to far distant parts for confiscation.

It denies us the right of worshipping the Almighty according to the dictates of our own conscience, by the support of a National Religion, calculated to promote the temporal interest of its human functionaries, rather than the glory of the true and living God.

It has demanded us to deliver up our arms, which are essential to our defence—the rightful property of freemen—and formidable only to tyrannical governments.

It has invaded our country both by sea and by land, with the intent to lay waste our territory, and drive us from our homes; and has now a large mercenary army advancing, to carry on against us a war of extermination.

It has, through its emmissaries, incited the merciless savage, with the tomahawk and scalping knife, to massacre the inhabitants of our defenceless frontiers.

It has been, during the whole time of our connection with it, the contemptible sport and victim of successive military revolutions, and hath continually exhibited every characteristic of a weak, corrupt, and tyrannical government.

These, and other grievances, were patiently borne by the people of Texas, until they reached that point at which forbearance ceases to be a virtue. We then took up arms in defence of the National Constitution. We appealed to our Mexican brethren for assistance: our appeal has been made in vain; though months have elapsed, no sympathetic response has yet been heard from the interior. We are therefore forced to the melancholy conclusion, that the Mexican people have acquiesced in the destruction of their liberty, and the substitution therefor of a military government; that they are unfit to be free, and incapable of self government.

The necessity of self preservation, therefore, now decrees our eternal political separation.

We, therefore, the deligates, with plenary powers, of the people of Texas, in solemn convention assembled, appealing to a candid world for the necessities of our condition, do hereby resolve and DECLARE, *that our political connection with the Mexican nation has forever ended, and that the people of Texas, do now constitute a* FREE, SOVEREIGN, *and* IN-

DEPENDENT REPUBLIC, *and are fully invested with all the rights and attributes which properly belong to independent nations; and, conscious of the rectitude of our intentions, we fearlessly and confidently commit the issue to the decision of the supreme Arbiter of the destinies of nations.*

RICHARD ELLIS, *President.*

C. B. STEWART, THOMAS BARNETT.	*Austin.*
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JOHN FISHER, MATT. CALDWELL,	*Gonzales.*
WILLIAM MOTLEY,	*Goliad.*
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ELIJAH STAPP,	*Jackson.*
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S. C. ROBERTSON, G. C. CHILDRESS,	*Milam.*
BAILEY HARDIMAN,	*Matagorda.*
ROBERT POTTER, THOMAS J. RUSK, CH. S. TAYLOR, JOHN S. ROBERTS,	*Nacogdoches.*
ROBERT HAMILTON, COLLIN MCKINNEY, ALB. H. LATIMER,	*Red River.*
JAMES POWLE, SAM. HOUSTON, DAVID THOMAS, EDWARD CONRAD,	*Refugio.*
MARTIN PARMER, E. O. LEGRAND, STEPH. W. BLOUNT,	*San Augustin.*
JAMES GAINES, W. CLARK, JR.,	*Sabine.*
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JOHN TURNER,	*San Patricio.*
B. BRIGGS GOODRICH. G. W. BARNETT, JAMES G. SWISHER, JESSE GRIMES,	*Washington.*

TELEGRAPH.

SATURDAY, MARCH 12, 1836.

We present our readers, this week, with the unanimous declaration of independence, by the assembled delegates of all Texas. They met at Washington, on the 1st inst.; on the day following, the important document was presented and adopted. Despatch of business unparalleled in legislative bodies. The alarming situation of our country admitted of no delay. Some may think more time should have been employed on the instrument which is to sever Texas from the body of a great nation. But, in the language of the instrument, "when a government has ceased to protect the lives, liberty, and property of the people," we think "*that* point is reached at which forbearance ceases to be a virtue," and they should, without delay, "create another in its stead, calculated to rescue them from impending danger."

We very much doubt whether a better would have been presented with the labour of a week. In the preamble, the relation of Texas with the Mexican government is fully set forth. The statements of our grievances are expressed in a language addressed to the understanding and experience of every citizen, and with an evidence of truth sufficient to convince an impartial world of "*the necessities of our condition*," upon which our delegates have made the solemn declaration, "*that our political connexion with the Mexican nation has forever ended.*"

In printing the declaration of independence, in hand bill form, the names of the delegates STEPHEN C. ROBERTSON and THOS. C. CHILDRESS, from the municipality of Milam, were through mistake, omitted. No error of this kind could be more deeply regretted by us. That we should have omitted the name of the chairman of the committee who drafted the instrument, is an error we are unable to atone for; and have this only to offer as an apology, that it was executed in too much haste, and principally done in the night.

TO CORRESPONDENTS. We have received several communications the last week, which for want of room can not appear in the present number. Some however, being intended for publication previous to the Convention, will not appear at all.

We had hoped in this paper to furnish our readers with some of the proceedings of the Convention, but we have received nothing except the Declaration of Independence. We must regret, however, that harmony and much good feeling prevail with all the members. We hope to receive a communication by which the people can see the proceedings of their representatives.

Col TRAVIS' letter to the president of the convention needs no remarks from us. We regret that no arrangement was made for the more speedy conveyance of news. The Convention ordered the letter printed on satin paper. We did not receive it till 11 o'clock Thursday, and then we had not a press to print it on, and we could not put on foot a copy to Washington till Tuesday. We could not, for want of an opportunity forward at the close of the Declaration of Independence to the world. And being incorrect as it may be, as to press to Washington we could not make it, only as we would have done in February, and as the press had ceased to work, by the time that place was known that Mr. Gouland and Gritten had left that place, we could not appear we could rather see to the public in our views, by leaving the city here. We have already learned under the advantages usually to be met with by a place so far removed from intercourse and the channels of trade as Washington. We will, however, as we have endeavored to do, supply our press to the convention as fast as it can do. And as we could not possibly get to Washington by the time the convention would close its session, if we could get a press there, we would not be justified in the expense of the trip, so to speak, and return such documents as might be ordered printed. We would accommodate such express with, since while we are in the wilds, and to labour, pay to be so returned.

Capt BIRD, with a company of sixty volunteers from the district of Nacogdoches, with a good brass waggon, marched from the place on Monday last to the westward; half of the company being mounted.

The citizens of the jurisdiction of Washington, are, we are told, turning out almost to a man for the relief of Col. Travis and his brave associates at Bexar.

It is reported that Col. Johnson's party, who went to the west, were surprised, and all, with the exception of himself and two or three others, killed by the Mexicans. Col. Grant is not heard of.

We *learn* that Gen'l. Houston left Washington on Saturday last, for the *purpose of repairing* forthwith to the seat of war. No general has ever had more to do. At this time, like the time on last fall, our citizens are rushing to the field, without any other officer than a captain. We believe, however, that an organization will be speedily effected *under the direction of Gen'l.* Houston, whose experience renders him eminently qualified in the discharge of so arduous a duty; and it is hoped, that every officer and private will contribute every aid in promoting that *organization as* is compatible with *our very existence.* And we trust that *our citizens* at home will not presume to give orders to our army in the field, or lay out plans for the commander in chief. Let us suppose that *he*, on the spot, know better the plan of attack than the *c* in the chimney corner.

Capt. Benj. WHITE has been ordered to Pass Caballo, at the entrance of Matagorda bay, to erect a suitable fortification for the defence of that important pass, which is the key to all the coast of that bay. This point lost, and Matagorda and Cox's point fall into the hands of our enemy. Little labor would now secure the coast from invasion by sea; Pass Caballo is the only entrance by which vessels can enter.

The harbour of Galveston is also important, and could with little *expense be* put into a state of defence. We cannot believe that Santa Ana intends carrying on an invasion of the colonies without receiving his supplies through the ports of Texas. Then, if possible, these customhouses should be guarded; and we have heard it suggested, that the planters of the lower country would no doubt turn out part of their force to fortify one the two places. To us, this except by a part of their slaves would be doubly advantageous. At the same time that it would send strength from operations in the field, it would have greater security at home. One planter will not be slow to dismount his three men in the cotton field, to add strength in the field of battle.

Intelligence has just reached this place, that there is a French company at the mouth of the Brazos, consisting of 100 men, and about 150 others, making say 250 men, who have come to our assistance in the present struggle: and report say there are 2 or 300 more at the mouth of the Mississippi and in New Orleans, who are on their way.

It is reported that the credit of Texas does not stand so high in New Orleans as formerly—in consequence perhaps of Canadian who have not seen fit to mention in our paper, but we will not to trouble our readers with the petty squabbles of our rulers: and we hope the meeting of the new Convention, whose authority none will dispute, will restore confidence.

If our *public* lands are not sufficient, let us hypothecate our own land. Let all—every wealthy man, and who possesses much land, offered to do this. To make a new start then, the following persons pledge themselves to mortgage one half of what land they possess—

W. Borden, jun. the owner of one league.
T. H. Borden, " four leagues.

In doing this, those persons do not consider they sacrifice any thing, for without speedy relief our land will be worth nothing, lying in the power of our enemies. May we not expect to receive, next week, the names of several persons who will make the same proposition?

We understand that major B. Hammet Norton, who has recently returned to this country from the United States, and who, in the city of New-York, was presented with a splendid sword, to be given by him to a volunteer in the cause of Texas, who would wield it in defence of her rights and independence, has presented the same to captain U. BULLOCK, of the Georgia volunteers. Captain Bullock, on receiving it, pledged himself to sacrifice his last heart's blood, before he would yield it to the enemy.

TEXAS NAVY.—We learn by a gentleman who arrived at the mouth of the Brossos a few days since in the government schooner Invincible, Capt. Brown from New Orleans, that the government schooner Brutus, Capt. Hurd and the Independence, Capt. Hawkins, were to sail the next day from the South West Pass for our coast, having in convoy the brig Metawamkong from New York viâ Nassau with 140 volunteers on board. This is cheering intelligence. The government vessels are all well armed, and manned with Yankee Tars.

We learn, by letters from Gonzales, that a courier had been despatched to Goliad, but was driven back, the Mexican spies being within 30 miles of that place. An express had just arrived from Col. Fannin, stating that he was besieged at Goliad, and could render no assistance to the troops in the Alamo till he could obtain a victory over the force then investing him.

We also learn by letter, that John W Smith, who had previously conducted 30 men into the Alamo, would be entrusted with the hazardous enterprise of conducting 50 more.

We again express the hope that the planters and farmers will turn their attention to the raising of bread instead of cotton, if they have an opportunity to cultivate the earth at all Many persons who have no servants will not be able to plant any thing. We, as well as some of our neighbors, can not even cultivate our garden. Some say, we can procure provisions from the United States; but this we are not certain of, for we are now experiencing the difficulty of procuring the necessaries of life, from scarcity of teams and the badness of roads. Flour, at this place, scarce at twenty dollars per barrel; corn not to be had at two dollars per bushel; and had it not been for the arrival of the steamboat, San Felipe again would have been straitened for something to eat. This may appear discouraging to volunteers from the United States: but we feel bound to let them know our poverty, believing the munificence of our friends *there* will not be withheld from a suffering people.

We are informed, however, that provisions for the army have, some time since, been landed at Cox's Point and at Copano, and that the most prompt and energetic means are employed in forwarding them on to the seat of war. Will not the planters and farmers in the lower country turn out their teams for the transportation of provisions to the army? We greatly fear *it will be in want*, unless the greatest exertions are used. Major Sutherland, we understand, has again put his shoulder to the wheel, in forwarding supplies; and for his industry and perseverance in this important department, at the siege of Bejar, last fall, major Sutherland is deserving our warmest gratitude.

Arrived at this place, on Saturday, Feb 27, the steamboat Yellow Stone, captain Ross, with full freight of merchandize, &c. The Yellow Stone, we understand, is one hundred and forty-five tons burthen. If so large a boat can reach this place, at this stage of water, what advantage to the country might we expect from one of less burthen, *made suitable for the Brazos river?* The Yellow Stone, on Tuesday, proceeded up the river, after a freight of cotton.

We are happy to state that the steamboat Laura, sunk twenty miles below this place, was but little injured, and will, in a few days, be repaired and ready for service.

LETTER

FROM COL. TRAVIS TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONVENTION.

{ COMMANDANCY OF THE ALAMO,
{ BEJAR, MARCH 3, 1836.

SIR,—In the present confusion of the political authorities of the country, and in the absence of the commander-in-chief, I beg leave to communicate to you the situation of this garrison. You have doubtless already seen my official report of the action of the 25th ult., made on that day to Gen. Sam. Houston, together with the various communications heretofore sent by express. I shall therefore confine myself to what has transpired since that date.

From the 25th to the present date, the enemy have kept up a bombardment from two howitzers, (one a five and a half inch, and the other an eight inch,) and a heavy cannonade from two long nine pounders, mounted on a battery on the opposite side of the river, at the distance of four hundred yards from our walls. During this period the enemy have been busily employed in encircling us with intrenched encampments on all sides, at the following distances, to wit,—in Bejar, four hundred yards west; in Lavilleta, three hundred yards south; at the powder house, one thousand yards east by south; on the ditch, eight hundred yards north-east, and at the old mill, eight hundred yards north. Notwithstanding all this, a company of thirty-two men, from Gonzales, made their way into us on the morning of the 1st inst. at 3 o'clock, and Col. J. B. Bonham (a courier from Gonzales) got in this morning at 11 o'clock, without molestation. I have so fortified this place, that the walls are generally proof against cannon balls, and I still continue to intrench on the inside, and strengthen the walls by throwing up the dirt. At least two hundred shells have fallen inside of our works without having injured a single man: indeed, we have been so fortunate as not to lose a man from any cause, and we have killed many of the enemy. The spirits of my men are still high, although they have had much to depress them. We have contended for ten days against an enemy whose numbers are variously estimated at from fifteen hundred to six thousand men, with Gen. Ramirez Siezma and Col. Batres, the aid de camp of Santa Ana, at their head. A report was circulated that Santa Ana himself was with the enemy, but I think it was false. A reinforcement of about one thousand men is now entering Bejar from the west, and I think it more than probable that Santa Ana is now in town, from the rejoicing we hear. Col. Fannin is said to be on the march to this place with reinforcements; but I fear it is not true, as I have repeatedly sent to him for aid without receiving any. Colonel Bonham, my special messenger, arrived at La Bahia fourteen days ago, with a request for aid; and on the arrival of the enemy in Bejar ten days ago, I sent an express to Col. F., which arrived at Goliad on the next day, urging him to send us reinforcements—*none have yet arrived*. I look to the *colonies alone* for aid: unless it arrives soon, I shall have to fight the enemy on his own terms. I will, however, do the best I can under the circumstances; and I feel confident that the determined valor, and desperate courage, heretofore evinced by my men, will not fail them in the last struggle; and although they may be sacrificed to the vengeance of a gothic enemy, the victory will cost the enemy so dear, that it will be worse for him than a defeat. I hope your honorable body will hasten on reinforcements, ammunition, and provisions to our aid, as soon as possible. We have provisions for twenty days for the men we have: our supply of ammunition is limited. At least five hundred pounds of cannon powder, and two hundred rounds of six, nine, twelve, and eighteen pound balls—ten kegs of rifle powder, and a supply of lead, should be sent to this place without delay, under a sufficient guard.

If these things are promptly sent and large reinforcements are hastened to this frontier, this neighborhood will be the great and decisive battle ground. The power of Santa Ana is to be met here, or in the colonies; we had better meet them here, than to suffer a war of desolation to rage in our settlements. A blood-red banner waves from the church of Bejar, and in the camp above us, in token that the war is one of vengeance against rebels; they have declared us as such, and demanded that we should surrender at discretion, or that this garrison should be put to the sword. Their threats have had no influence on me, or my men, but to make all fight with desperation, and that high souled courage which characterizes the patriot, who is willing to die in defence of his country's liberty and his own honor.

The citizens of this municipality are all our enemies except those who have joined us heretofore; we have but three Mexicans now in the fort: those who have not joined us in this extremity, should be declared public enemies, and their property should aid in paying the expenses of the war.

The bearer of this will give your honorable body, a statement more in detail, should he escape through the enemies lines *God and Texas—Victory or Death!!*

Your obedient ser't.

W. BARRETT TRAVIS.
Lieut. Col. Comm.

P. S. The enemies troops are still arriving and the reinforcement will probably amount to two or three thousand. T.

{ Convention Hall, Sunday morning,
{ 10 o'clock, March 6, 1836.

On the arrival of the express with the letter, of which the above is a copy, the Convention was called together, and being called to order, on motion it was read; whereupon Mr. Parmer moved the house, that one thousand copies be printed for circulation, by the Editors, Messrs. Baker and Bordens of San Felipe, which was agreed to.

H. S. KIMBLE, *Secretary.*

ARMY ORDERS.

{ Convention Hall, Washington,
{ March 2, 1836.

War is raging on the frontiers. Bejar is besieged by two thousand of the enemy, under the command of general Siezma. Reinforcements are on their march, to unite with the besieging army. By the last report, our force in Bejar was only one hundred and fifty men strong. The citizens of Texas must rally to the aid of our army, or it will perish. Let the citizens of the East march to the combat. The enemy must be driven from our soil, or desolation will accompany their march upon us. *Independence is declared*, it must be maintained. Immediate action, united with valor, alone can achieve the great work. The services of all are forthwith required in the field.

SAM. HOUSTON,
Comm.-in-Chief of the Army.

P. S. It is rumored that the enemy are on their march to Gonzales, and that they have entered the colonies. The fate of Bejar is unknown. The country must and shall be defended. The patriots of Texas are *appealed to in behalf of their bleeding country.* S. H.

COMMUNICATION.
NO. II.

"Live or die, sink or swim, survive or perish, I go for this measure."
Adams.

In a previous number it is asserted, that the revolution of Texas is as just as the revolution which separated England from America. By that it is intended, that a declaration of independence on the part of Texas, would be as just as the declaration of independence on the part of the British colonies of America, now the United States of America.

The principles upon which the patriots of that day proceeded to declare independence, are as simple and intelligible as they are true and universal in their application. They are expressed in these words, "that men are endowed by their Creator with certain natural, inherent, and inalienable rights, among which are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness—that to protect these rights governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; and that whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these rights, it is the right and duty of the people to throw off such government, and to institute a new government for their future security, laying its foundation upon such principles, and organizing its powers in such form as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness."

No American will at this day inquire into the justness of the principles here asserted. They laid them down in their declaration of independence, and pledged their fortunes, lives, and sacred honor to maintain them. And they did maintain them, to the confusion and terror of sovereigns and subjects. At every advance they make, each throne in Europe feels its insecurity, and they are destined, we trust, to shake every fabric of tyranny until not one stone shall be left upon another. To the people of Texas, descended as they are, it is equally unnecessary to argue them. They who have never even seen or heard the words, feel the force of the principles; for they are written upon their hearts. Then the simple inquiry is one of fact, namely, has the Mexican government, the government under which the people of Texas have been living, become *destructive* of their rights, instead of being a *protection* to them. If so, then, according to the great political doctrines of the American revolution just cited, it is both the right and the duty of the people of Texas to throw off such government, and to provide a new one for their future security. Now let every inhabitant of Texas ask himself, if it is not destructive of his rights to change his government without his knowledge or consent. One of the principles—one of the great fundamental principles of freedom—indeed the one to which may be traced, and upon which rests, as a necessary basis, every maxim of civil and religious liberty, is this,—that all political authority—all the powers of government are derived from the *consent* of the *governed*. The patriots of the American Revolution did not fail to insert it in their Declaration of Independence. "*That to protect these rights*," say they, "*governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.*" What kind of liberty is that which a set of men have the right to take away at pleasure, by making new governments for us? If it be not absurd to call it liberty, it is but the liberty which the slave enjoys on a holiday—a liberty which his master may take from him at a word. It was against this right, to have something to say and do in the making of the governments and laws under which we live, that Great Britain aimed a blow, when she asserted in parliament, the right to govern the colonies *in all cases whatsoever*. Have the people of Texas ever assented to the opposite doctrine, the doctrine that others have a right to make a government for them, without their consent. Have they yelded that inestimable right of self-government, and yielded it too to a set of men inhabiting a remote part of the continent, having little or no intercourse with them, and different from them both in language and religion? If so, they have yielded their liberty: they have surrendered what, according to the American declaration of independence, is *unalienable*; and consequently, the surrender is a nullity. But the people of Texas have made no such surrender. No man in Texas came here believing that liberty was to be a part of the price of his league of land, that he was in effect selling his liberty for a mess of pottage.

The Mexicans then have, in the single act of placing over the people of Texas, or attempting to do it, a government without their knowledge or consent, denied them the most essential right of freemen, the right without which all others are insecure. Against this violation of their rights, the form of government under which they have been living, the Mexican confederacy, has proved an unsufficient safeguard. They have therefore the right, and it is their duty to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security. Thus far, it is indisputable that the Texas revolution and the American revolution of 1776 stand upon the same basis. If the cause of the American revolution was a just and a glorious cause, so is the cause of the Texas revolution. The form of the British government was no protection to the rights of the people in America, but was destructive of those rights: so the form of the Mexican government was no protection to the rights of the people of Texas. The British government claimed, as belonging to parliament, the power of governing the colonies, *in all cases whatsoever*: so the Mexican government claims, as belonging to the to the Mexican congress, the power of altering the constitution, whenever and wherever they please,* *without pursuing the formalities required by that instrument.* In other words, they claim the power of wresting from Texas all her rights, at any moment that it may suit them to make crouching slaves of her people.

As such a claim of power justified the British colonies in forming each for itself a new government, so does it equally justify Texas in forming for herself a
ment, for the future security o

[From the New Orleans Bulletin

TEXAS.

The Spartan efforts of the gal
now struggling for the liberties of n
try, excite our deepest interest and sy
thies. Their success can only be acco
for by a knowledge of their difficulties wi
Mexico, and a proper conception of the
feeling which animate the bosom of chivalry,
under a high sense of injury and oppression.
It is ever thus where freedom wars against
tyranny. Heaven nerves the arm of the
just while it paralyzes that of the despot.
Seldom does it happen in such a case that
resistance against power is not successful.
One melancholy exception we have seen in
the case of unhappy Poland, and there,
while the father, in cold blood, after the
battle was over, suffered death at the hands
of the ruthless soldiery, the mother was
stripped, and whipped upon her naked back,
until life was hardly left in her body, her
children taken from her bosom, carried to
regions unknown to her, to be educated in
the Russian language, so that should parent
and child ever meet again, they should be
unable to communicate with each other.
Such was the penalty, and probably would
be again, for an unsuccessful effort to throw
off the chains of slavery. While every
thing is to be gained on the one side, so is
it to be lost on the other; and deep indeed
must be the injury, before oppressed man,
with a knowledge of the consequences, will
venture to rase his arm to resist the inroads
of power. When he does it, however, he
must throw away the scabbard, and never
sheath his sword until he has conquered or
perished in the attempt; for mercy has no
abiding place in the bosom of the tyrant.

But what is the history of the wrongs of
Texas. Mexico held out inducements to
all who were disposed, to settle her domain—
offering them land to cultivate, and a free
constitution to live under. Subsequently,
Santa Ana usurps the government of Mexi-
co—destroys the constitution, which as a
bate had been held out to attract the settlers,
proclaims that he will drive them from their
homes, and confiscate their estates because
they dare to complain. When the Texians
have been induced to battle with the savage,
and rescue the country from him—to make
the wilderness assume the garb of civiliza-
tion—when the prime of their lives had
been spent in making a home comfortable,
that they might enjoy in the evening of
their days, quiet and peace in the bosoms
of their families—when now prepared to
reap the reward of their early sufferings,
are they to fly at a tyrant's nod, and leave
a country made valuable and desirable by
their efforts? No. There are bounds be-
yond which endurance ceases to be a virtue,
and when they are reached, man becomes
contemptible in his own, as well as in the
world's estimation if he does not resist.
Texas has had no alternative left her.
Between resistance and base submission
she had to choo as made her elec-
tion, and an ap e h
on in her co

her

Justice may have to implore peace at the gates of Mexico, and hold his sceptre at the mercy of those whom he would have annihilated. There is an innate sympathy between freemen in every part of the world, they are brothers in feeling, and will fly to the succor of each other in distress. Could Santa Ana conquer those who are now waring with his armies, he would only the more certainly insure the appearance of a more powerful opposing force. Where he to annihilate nineteen armies, the twentieth would quickly present itself, and every subsequent one would be stronger than the preceding. He may now, by a reasonable course, save his own domains, but should he present a force sufficient to rouse the fears, and the energies of the friends of Texas, his armies will not only be driven out of Texas, but the war will be rolled back upon him, and the downfall of his own empire may, and will be the consequence. Already a perfect confidence exists that Texas will not want men—all that she wants is money—and how long will she want that? At the dawning of the existence of every government, distrust exists as to the safety of money adventured in her funds. Capitalists are fearful, and then it is that the greatest difficulties are to be encountered by the infant government. She has to make the best terms she can at first, and generally is glad if she can make any. Whenever she can make any, however she may consider her success as insured, if men enough can be had. Her credit thenceforward is gradually on rising ground, and may be looked to as a thermometer, indicating her rising prospects. Taking such a guide, how now stands Texas? A few days since an effort was made to obtain a loan at eight per cent.—The usual interest here is ten. Higher than eight, the commissioners thought it imprudent to go; but a condition was annexed, authorising the script to be redeemed in land. For a short time it progressed heavily even with these conditions. Finally, however, when subscriptions were opened for $200,000, it was instantly taken, and offers to such an amount that the subscriptions had to be curtailed. Any amount could have been taken on the same terms, but the commissioners very prudently said no. Our lands we hold to be equal in value to those of the United States, and we will only sacrifice enough to make a beginning, with a confidence that as our course progresses, we can make better terms. In that they have not been mistaken; for the writer of this article has himself seen a very large advance offered, upon an original subscription, and there is no doubt that in a short time the lands of Texas will constitute for that government, a fund which will undoubtedly enable it to raise any amount of money which their exigencies may require. One uniform opinion exists in relation to the soil, health, and advantages for cotton and sugar culture in that country, which is, that they surpass those of the U. States. If so, and those lands of the U. States are worth from $10 to $100 per acre, why should not those of Texas be worth as much. The answer is, because of the hazards of the present struggle. What are those hazards. They are nothing.—If an insurance office would take a risk bond on the result, I doubt whether a premium of one per cent. would be demanded.—Why then the vast disproportion in the value of the lands on the two sides of the line? It is because prudence shows uncertainty; however small the hazard may be; but time will show the reward which those will meet with, who have adventured in this instance. From this day forward the credit of Texas is on the rise. It is now demonstrable that she can command what funds she wants by selling her lands, and it is only a question of policy with her how much of them she will sell, if any other difficulties should exist in obtaining money upon reasonable terms. But no such difficulty will exist. She can easily raise money now without selling her land. Such a country as Texas is known to be the most fertile and healthy region of the North American continent, cannot be long without such a population, as will ensure laws of the most steady character, and who will prize and husband the good faith of the country, as they would their hearts' blood. The day has passed in the civilized world, especially in the anglo portion of it, when a man would dare to propose any public measure to impair public faith. Among the Spanish portion, they value it not otherwise is the fact, however, where the strength of the purse is known, and where credit is known to be equal to money. He must be a Vandal indeed, who would listen with patience for a single moment to the suggestions of any man who would propose a measure that could impair at any time the power of a government to raise money upon her credit, when her necessities might require it, and it is the last thing which there can be a fear of in a government about taking her stand among the nations of the earth, and whose standing must in a great degree depend upon her character for good faith among them.

TRUTH.

[From the New-York Evening Star.]

TEXAS.

Every thing relating to the pending revolution in Texas is of deep interest to the country: we subjoin an interesting sketch from Judge Brackenridge, of the war carried on in that province in 1813–14, which will amply repay a perusal.

The origin of the war was far from being brilliant or glorious, but such as it was I will state it truly. While discharging the duties of Attorney General of Louisiana, I was called upon, in the latter part of 1812, to prosecute fourteen persons at Natchitoches for highway robbery. It appeared that a band of about fifty, who were principally outlaws of the most daring and desperate character, had stationed themselves on the Sabine, for the purpose of intercepting the caravans engaged in the growing trade between Natchitoches and the internal provinces of New Spain. They had become so formidable that it was found necessary to detach a military force from the garrison of Natchitoches. This was placed under the command of Lieut. Magee, a young officer of great promise, and of fine manly person. The duty assigned him was attended with complete success; he broke up the gang, brought in the culprits before mentioned, and dispersed the rest.

The affair, however, did not end here on the part of Magee. While engaged in this perilous enterprise he conceived the bold idea of the conquest of Mexico, and by the aid of the very banditti he had just subdued.

He found no difficulty in making his peace with them, and enlisting them in his enterprise. Appointing a place of rendezvous for them, with nobler objects than they had before pursued, Magee repaired to New-Orleans, where he obtained some supplies, and engaged a number of partizans, among them several young men of respectable character and standing. Here he found also a native of the internal provinces, Bernardo, who had fled in consequence of having taken part in the revolution attempted by Hidalgo. As it would not have done to have entered New Spain as an invader, it was deemed politick to use the name of Bernardo as the general of the expedition. Magee, having resigned his commission in the army, now proceeded to plant his standard beyond our western boundary, and issued a proclamation in Spanish in the name of Bernardo, calling on the Mexicans to join his standard.

His force consisted of about two hundred men, principally the desperate riflemen and hunters of the southwest. The principal officers were Kemper, Lucket, Perry, and Ross, young men who, in point of spirit and enterprise, were worthy to be compared with the Alvarados, the Olids, and the Gonzales of Cortes. After remaining here only long enough to establish a most rigid discipline, he proceeded to Nacogdoches, which place he took with ease, obtained some additional supply of arms, some Mexican recruits, and a few Indians. The first news of his success spread like wildfire through the southwestern states: volunteers flocked from all directions, many of them bringing with them considerable means, and all with a respectable outfit.

Magee marched from Nacogdoches with a force of five hundred men, three hundred of them Americans; and instead of going directly to San Antonio, the capital of the province, thought it more prudent to take possession of La Bahia, near the bay of St. Bernard, where he could have the advantage of a communication by sea; besides, he did not think himself yet sufficiently strong to make an attack on a place like San Antonio, then garrisoned by a large military force. Taking possession of the small fort of La Bahia, he lost no time in strengthening his defence, and in preparing for a siege, which soon took place under General Salcedo, with fifteen hundred men. This siege was kept up during the greater part of the winter of 1812 and 1813, and scarcely a day passed without a skirmish in which the Spaniards were almost invariably worsted. The Spanish force rapidly wasted away before the deadly aim of the rifle. The Americans grew every day more bold, and at last were in the habit of taking their supplies of cattle from the very camp of their enemy.

The Spaniards hastily raised the siege, and retreated to San Antonio. In the mean time Magee, who had been afflicted with a hemorrhage of the lungs, did not live to see the retreat of the enemy. He was consigned to the grave a few days before that event,

deeply lamented by his companions. The command now devolved on Col. Kemper, who called a council of his officers, Bernardo nominally assisting. It was resolved to take up their march immediately for San Antonio. In the mean time Salcedo had received reinforcements, and prepared for defence. The Americans met with no opposition on their march, until within six miles of the town, when they came in sight of the Spanish army, twelve hundred strong, with six pieces of artillery planted on the road, near the centre of the whole. A select corps of riflemen, under Lacket, rushed on the artillery, shot down the artillerists, and seized the cannon, while Kemper on the right, and Ross on the left, soon put the two wings of the Spanish army to rout. The American loss was small, but that of the Spaniards, who were pursued into San Antonio, was very great in proportion to the number engaged. The Spanish officers surrendered at discretion, and possession was taken of the town, which contained about three thousand inhabitants, without further opposition. General Bernardo, in whose name all this chivalry had been accomplished, who had acted the part of Sancho Panza during the battle, now become an important personage: and here was the cause of the subsequent misfortunes of the Americans. From being nominally invested with authority, it was impossible to deprive him of the exercise of a portion of real power. Perhaps if Magee had lived matters might have been differently ordered: but under present circumstances, the generalissimo and governor must necessarily exercise some power, and his first act was of the most atrocious character. The Spanish officers, to the number of seventeen, who had received every assurance from Kemper and his associates, were secretly seized by the orders of Bernardo, and taken to some secluded spot, and there inhumanly butchered. The American leaders were struck with horror at this act. Kemper, Lacket, and Ross, almost immediately returned to Louisiana: and a number of the adventurers, from different motives, followed them, spreading accounts every where of their success, and exhibiting their trophies, thus stimulating the spirit of wild adventure, which was already kindled in Louisiana, and in the adjacent states, extending even as far as Tennessee and Kentucky.

The Americans remained in undisturbed possession of St. Antonio for some months: although numbers returned to the United States, their places were more than supplied by others. The command had devolved on Colonel Perry, and the Mexicans had been formed into a distinct corps of about seven hundred strong, under Colonel Menchaca, a bold, but rude and uneducated native of the neighborhood. The destruction of two Spanish armies under Salcedo, and the possession of the capital of Texas, were sufficient to awaken the serious attention of the viceroy of Mexico, Venegas, who lost no time in despatching General Elsondo, with a well appointed army of fifteen hundred men, besides a number of the irregular troops of the country. This formidable force was permitted to advance within a few miles of San Antonio, before the combined forces of Americans, Indians, and native Mexicans, under the command of Perry, ventured forth to give them battle. The Spaniards were attacked at daybreak, while engaged at matins, according to their custom; they were completely surprised; about four hundred were killed and wounded, the rest were entirely dispersed, Elisondo making his escape with a handful of men. The camp, with the military chest, and a great supply of arms and ammunition, fell into hands of the victors.

[*To be continued.*]

[From the Mobile Chronicle.]

TEXAS MEETING.

On the 18th of the present month, pursuant to notice, a highly respectable portion of the citizens of Mobile assembled in the Presbyterian Church, when the hon. Abner Lipscomb was called to the chair, and John D. Reaney was appointed secretary.

After the object of the meeting was explained by the chairman, on motion, it was resolved, that a committee of three be appointed to draft resolutions for the consideration of the meeting: whereupon Messrs. V. Dexter, R. D. James, and John R. Reed, were appointed said committee, who, after absenting themselves a short time, returned and reported the following, which were unanimously adopted:—

Whereas, it is natural for a free people to sympathize with those who are making efforts to secure like privileges: and whereas, the people of Texas are now upon the threshold of Political Redemption—therefore,

Resolved, That the citizens of Mobile do most heartily commend that infant country to the good feelings of all who estimate the blessings of constitutional liberty.

Resolved, That, as far as is consistent with those duties which we owe to the United States, we do respond to the call made through its commissioners by the Provisional Government of Texas, upon the liberality of the citizens of our republic.

Resolved, That full confidence should be reposed in the faith of Texas, which, according to the seventh article of her Declaration of Rights, she, by her accredited agents, is ready to pledge for the purpose of negotiating loans to carry out her political designs.

Resolved, That it is a public duty to extend every respect and courtesy to the Foreign Commissioners of Texas, and recognize them as her legitimate and formally constituted diplomatic agents.

Resolved, That the agent now in this city, lay before this meeting the business with which he is charged. Whereupon Col. Wolfe, the said agent, delivered a lengthy and eloquent address, replete with the most useful information of the origin of the troubles in Texas, and of the present state of its affairs.

On motion, the thanks of the meeting were returned to Col. Wolfe, for the valuable information it received from him.

On motion it was Resolved, That this meeting deeply sympathize with the Texians in the great loss they sustained by the death of their brave Col. Milam, who fell at the storming of San Antonio.

THE SHIP PENNSYLVANIA.

The line of battle ship Pennsylvania, now on the stocks at our navy yard, under the shelter of a building that cost $45,000, is one of the most stupendous fabrics that was ever destined to float on the ocean. Her length on deck is two hundred and twenty-five feet, which is twenty seven feet more than half way from Fifth to Sixth street, in Chesnut, and her breadth fifty-eight feet, which is eight feet wider than Chesnut-street opposite the theatre, including the footways. She is large enough to carry two thousand men, which is a larger number of men than the whole American army that fought and gained the battle of Chippeway, and greater than the population of a considerable sized county town. She is of the burthen of three thousand tons, and could, if loaded with flour, carry the moderate cargo of thirty thousand barrels, enough to supply bread for fifteen thousand people for a whole year. She is to carry one hundred and forty guns, thirty-two pounders, so that every time she discharges a full broadside, she will dispose of precisely a ton of bullets, to make iron pebbles for the bottom of the ocean, unless she happens to hit the enemy. She will draw twenty-eight feet of water, and thus find it difficult to navigate in shoal waters. One of her anchors, which is to be seen in the yard, and which is said to be the largest one in the world, weighs eleven thousand six hundred and sixty-eight pounds, which is something more than five tons, and will require some merry piping at the capstan to get it aweigh. Her water tanks are of iron, mostly in the shape of large chests, capable of holding from one to two hundred gallons, but having a proportion of them of other shapes, adapted to fit around the sides of the ship, so as to leave no space, as happens with casks. The number is probably one hundred and fifty, as far as we could judge from looking at them, as we did a day or two since, under the guidance of some of the polite and attentive officers stationed at the yard.

A friend has just informed us, that the largest anchor in the British dock yard, at Portsmouth in 1832, weighed something less than ten thousand pounds, at which time there were on the stocks three ships nearly as large as the Pennsylvania.

Ph. Gaz.

Louisiana seems to have hit upon the true course to punish duellists and prevent duels, in making the survivor in a duel fall heir to the obligations of the man he has murdered. Put in hands of the creditors of the deceased, and his bereaved family, the legal power to compel a performance of these obligations, and it will be found that the tenderness of the pocket excels that of the heart which beats beneath it, in presenting sanguinary appeals. Mercenary selfishness will prove more than a match for the honorable selfishness of duelists.

Globe.

TORY,

A biped who goes "neck and heels," for fat offices. He eats from the public treasury, he drinks from the public treasury, he sleeps on the public treasury; in short, he is a perfect *treasure*, take him all in all. He may always be known by the manner in which he looks out for his own interests.

We think proper to make known an heroic deed performed in New York during the great fire that some weeks ago destroyed so large a part of that city. Glory and fame is the best way to reward and create heroism.

Passing along one of the streets, then a prey to the devouring element, his ears were assailed with the agonizing cries of a female, to whom he immediately rushed, and on hearing from her that her only child, an infant, was then in the upper part of a house already in flames, and would inevitably be burnt up, if some one did not instantly fly to its rescue, he forced his way up stairs, notwithstanding the repeated warnings of the firemen, and other spectators, that he would inevitably perish in the attempt, and there found the innocent in bed, who, unconscious of its danger, was playing with its little hands, pleased, no doubt, at the brilliancy of the scene, (for the room itself was then on fire!) He seized it, and happily, succeeded in effecting his escape, restored it to the embraces of its most distracted mother, who, with frantic joy, threw her arms around his neck, exclaiming, with a heart overflowing with gratitude, "My God! my God! thou has not forsaken me!" As such heroism is always accompanied by modesty, and by feelings easily overpowered by scenes like this, he made his escape from the applauding crowd with as much precipitation as possible, but he will, I trust, long live to remember (and when called to "*his account*" find them true) the words of one of them exclaiming as he passed, "*for that act alone you have gained a place in heaven.*" No reward that could be offered to him *on earth* can equal the satisfaction that such a deed carries with it.—*Star.*

MEXICAN CONSULATE.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 12, 1836.

To the Editor of the Courier:

SIR—In compliance to orders just received in this consulate from the honorable J. M. Ortiz Monasterio, acting secretary of state to the republic, it becomes my duty to give publicity to the enclosed circular, addressed by his excellency the secretary of war and marine department, on the date of the 30th December ultimo, to all the civil and military commandants of the said republic.

I request of you, sir, to have the goodness to insert said document in your paper as soon as convenient, and you will oblige your obedient servant,

F. PIZARRO MARTINEZ.
Mexican Consul.

MEXICO.

WAR AND NAVY DEPARTMENT.

Circular.—The government has received information that in the United States of North America, meetings are called for the avowed purpose of getting up and fitting out expeditions against the Republic of Mexico, in order to send assistance to the rebels, foster the civil war, and inflict upon our country all the calamities by which it is followed. In the United States, our ancient ally, expeditions are now organized openly to that headed by the traitor Jose Antonio Mexia, and some have even set out for Texas. They have been furnished with every kind of ammunition, by means of which the revolted colonies are enabled to resist and fight the nation from which they wish to be separated, but immense benefits

The government is also positively informed that these acts, condemned by the wisdom of the laws of the United States, are also reported by the general government, with which the best intelligence and the greatest harmony still prevail. However, as these adventurers and speculators have succeeded in escaping the penalties inflicted by the laws of their own country, it becomes necessary to adopt measures for their punishment. His excellency the president ad interim, anxious to repress these aggressions which constitute not only an offence to the sovereignty of the Mexic n nation, but also to an evident violation of international laws as they are generally adopted, has ordered the following decrees to be enforced.

1. Foreigners landing on the cost of the republic or invading its territory by land, armed and with the intention of attacking our country, will be deemed pirates and dealt with as such, being citizens of no nation presently at war with the republic, and fighting under no recognized flag.

2. All foreigners who will import either by sea or land, in the places occupied by the rebels, either arms or ammunition of any kind for the use of them, will be deemed pirates and punished as such.

I send you these decrees, that you may cause them to be fully executed.

TORNEL.

Mexico 30th Dec. 1835.

LETTER
FROM GONZALES.

Gonzales, 8th March, 1836.

GENTLEMEN,

ON day before yesterday I arrived here, accompanied by the companies of Captains M'Nutt and Rabb. I found about one hundred and sixty men here, which, with our force, made about two hundred and seventy, fifty of which started on yesterday for the Alamo. Our force now at this place is about two hundred and twenty men, with an enemy seventy-five miles in our front, five thousand strong. Our own situation is critical—too weak to advance, and insufficient to protect this place—and daily expecting two thousand cavalry to attack us. To retreat, however, would be the ruin of Texas; and we have all resolved to abide an attack, and to conquer or die. We are now busily engaged fortifying ourselves, with the hope that the people of Texas, *en masse*, are on the march to our assistance. Unless they are, the alamo and our post must fall, and *all, every* man be destroyed. Not one of us will return to tell the dreadful tale—or to reproach those that remain for their supineness, or their cowardice. We have come here to repel the enemy, and my company will die beneath their standard sooner than the enemy shall advance, or they retreat. Will the people of Texas longer remain at home? Will any man, under these circumstances, longer refuse to turn out, because his *interest* requires his attention? Will any one dare to have the effrontery to say, that his interest must be attended to, when Texas is in danger of being overran, and the women and children in cold blood massacred, when a portion of his fellow citizens are closely besieged, and another portion daily expecting to be attacked by ten times their number. The truth is not to be disguised, unless Texas turns out to a man—unless in two weeks from this day, three thousand men are concentrated here, Texas is gone, and one universal destruction and conflagration will be the result. In the name of God, send us assistance—send out the men; and let all who remain, without satisfactory reasons, be henceforward branded as a coward and a traitor, and an enemy to Texas, and let him be so treated. Their doctrine appears to be, that we must fight the battles of Texas, endure all privation, and all toil, and spill our blood and our lives, that they may enjoy the privilege of staying at home. Such a man is a traitor, and as a traitor treat him. Send, as fast as possible, arms and ammunition. Some of my company are without guns, and no possible means of procuring them here. Not a pound of lead, except what I brought, which I have distributed. Send these things, and speedily: and be assured, that unless Texas is victorious, I shall never return.

Yours, truly,
MOSELEY BAKER,
Captain.

JOHN R. JONES,
THOMAS GAY,
WM. PETTUS,
} *Committee.*

Published by order of the Committee, February 10, 1836.

[From the Emigrant's Guide.]

FOR THE TEXIAN.

To the memory of Col. Benj. R. Milam, who fell at the head of the storming party, which entered San Antonio, on the 7th day of December, 1835.

Mourn that a master spirit,
A high, heroic soul—
Its earthly light extinguished—
Is blotted from the roll,
Where stands the bold of Texas,
Who nobly dare the fight,
That Liberty is waging with
The haughty hand of might.

Not a loftier heart e'er perished,
More generous, just, and brave,
With prouder scorn for coward acts
That make of man a slave.
To the true, the bold and gallant
Were his sympathy allied,
As a heart to heart of brother
By the bond of blood is tied.

Pure were his patriot virtues
From the sordid love of self;
From all that makes ambition crime,
Or stoops to earth for pelf;
He knew alone his country,
In the hour of her need—
To free and to exalt her
He sought no other meed.

First, earliest of our martyrs
To fall in freedom's cause;
To spend the treasure of his blood
For liberty and laws.
As bright was thy example,
So bright shall be thy fame;
And generations yet unborn
Shall honor Milam's name.

W. S. A.

PROSPECTUS

For publishing in the town of Washington a miscellaneous newspaper, to be entitled

THE TEXAS REPORTER.

FELLOW CITIZENS:—The fact that Washington has been designated for the assembling of the Convention next spring—the fact that from its beautiful situation, and central position, there is a strong probability of its becoming the future Capital of Texas—the fact that you have a deep interest in being correctly informed of all the doings of the Convention, and of the Legislatures that may sit in this place; and the fact that there is no printing press to give you that information, are the grounds on which we ask and expect your patronage. But as the press is calculated to do much evil as well as good, and as we have no opinions that we are unwilling should be known, we deem it proper to make, as far as the limits of a prospectus will admit, a disclosure of the objects to which our paper will be devoted.

Our first object will be to make our paper what its name purports, a faithful reporter of the true situation of the country and of all conventional and legislative proceedings, and to do with neatness and despatch all the public printing that may be required to be done at this place, and to give at this critical moment of our history all Foreign News involving the public interest.

The columns of our paper will be open to every citizen to communicate his views on any subject of public interest; but shall never become vehicles for the dissemination of personal abuse. In our editorial capacity we will speak of the public acts of public men with a freedom becoming the conductors of an independent press. Against all monopolies and hereditary privileges we will ever maintain an uncompromising opposition.

We come here, fellow citizens, to battle for the principles proclaimed at Philadelphia in 1776—for freedom of conscience and equality of rights, and to the maintenance of these our paper will be devoted. We will be governed by principles and not by party; for we have no party interest to advocate—we belong to none—we are unknown to all. As public men we belong to our God and our country—as private citizens, to our God, our country, and our friends. Our political maxim is 'Measures *first*, men *next*.'

We believe the Mexican Federal Constitution has been openly violated and forcibly destroyed—that Texas is no longer bound by the decrees of the present Mexican government, but is free to adopt any form of government a majority of the people may agree upon, and that she ought in convention to make a declaration of this right and go into the formation of such a government as may be thought best adapted to her present condition. The literary and religious aspect of our paper hereafter will show for itself.

We have spoken thus freely that you might know something of the character our paper is designed to be.

Very respectfully,
WILLIAM W. GANT.
ANDREW J. GREER.

NOTICE.

The public are hereby cautioned against buying, bargaining, or trading for a note of one thousand dollars, held against me by Col. Jared Groce, as I have just claims against that gentleman. Certain papers may be exhibited by him, to prove the justice of the note, which I can prove were not legally obtained.

WM. W. SHEPPERD.
Lake Creek, Feb. 12, 1836. 193

NOTICE.

To whom it may concern:—Notice is hereby given, that the undersigned has been appointed by the Provisional Government of Texas, Collector for the Revenue District and Port of Galveston. The Custom House for said district and port is at the east end of Galveston Island, where all persons having business with the same may apply.

WILLIAM P. HARRIS,
Collector.
Jan. 19, 1836. 193

NOTICE.

The Subscriber, being about to leave the municipality of Matagorda, respectfully requests all persons indebted to him by note book account or otherwise, to make immediate payment to his duly authorized agent, M. A. Mitchell, who has charge of the entire business of the subscriber. Those indebted will confer a favor, and save costs, by attending to the above.

J. N. G. WALLACE.
Matagorda, Feb. 7, 1836. 196

ADMINISTRATRIX NOTIC

The undersigned, having been appointed administratrix of the estate of Samuel Heady, dec'd, requests all persons indebted to said estate, to come forward, and settle the same: and all those holding claims against the estate, will present them duly authenticated, within the term prescribed by law, or they will be bared.

ELIZABETH HEADY,
Administratrix.
San Felipe, Feb. 23, 1836. 192

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

The operation of receiving public dues on land, under the provisions of the ordinance and degree published in the 17th number of the Telegraph, is so complicated, and attended with so much difficulty, that further payments will not be received, till I can obtain, from the authorities, more definite instructions. G. BORDEN Jr.

WM. J. HEARD is my agent during my absence from Texas.

THOS. J. WINSTON.
San Felipe.
nov 21tf

NOTICE.

ANDREW PONTON, Esq. is appointed Deputy Collector to receive dues upon all lands given, granted, or sold, in De Witt's Colony.

G. BORDEN, Jr.
Principal Collector for the Department of Brazos.
tf

NOTICE.

ALL PERSONS indebted to us by note or account, for the business done at this place during the last year, will please make it convenient to call and make payment *immediately*.

JOHNSON & WINBURN.
San Felipe de Austin, Jan. 26, 1836.
tf

DURING my absence, I have appointed Gail Borden, jr. my special agent to collect any debts due me, and receipt for the same. S. F. AUSTIN.
dec 26 tf

LAW NOTICE.

THE PARTNERSHIP heretofore existing between Travis & Nibbs, has been dissolved by limitation. The unfinished business entrusted to them will be attended to by Travis & Starr.

W. B. Travis and Franklin J. Starr have associated themselves in the practice of the law, and will attend to business in the courts of San Felipe, Washington, and the adjoining municipalities. One or both of them will be constantly found at their office in San Felipe.
January 20, 1836. tf

NOTICE.

THE SUBSCRIBER respectfully informs the public that he has opened his house on Mill Creek, for the entertainment of travellers. His house will at all times be furnished with the best fare the country affords, and his stable with corn and fodder for horses. WILLIAM PETTUS.
tf

I HAVE appointed my brother-in-law, James F. Perry, my sole general agent to attend to all my business during my absence from Texas. S. F. AUSTIN.
dec 26 tf

NOTICE

IS hereby given that the CUSTOM HOUSE for the despatch of business connected with the Port of Copano, is established at the town of "Mission del Refugio."

San Antonio de Bexar, Jan. 31 1836.
EDWARD GRITTEN,
Collector.
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